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*Admitted only in Maryland *Admitted only in Virginia •Practice Limited to Federal Agencies

December 18, 2009

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Art Unit 1614

Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re:

U.S. Utility Patent Application

Application No. 10/555,343; § 371 Date: November 1, 2005

For: Freeze-Dried Preparation Containing Methylcobalamin and Process

For Producing Same

Inventors: KATO et al.

Our Ref: 1089.0590000/MAC

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

- 1. Online Credit Card Payment Authorization in the amount of \$490.00 to cover extension fee;
- 2. Petition for Extension of Time Under 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a); and
- 3. Amendment and Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111 and Statement of Substance of the Interview.

The above-listed documents are filed electronically through EFS-Web.

In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

Commissioner for Patents December 18, 2009 Page 2

Fee payment is provided through online credit card payment. The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

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MAC/C-L:ybh Enclosures

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